

What is claimed is:

1. A biometric security device comprised of:  
a biometric scanner having an output data port;  
5 a processor having an input data port coupled to said data output port  
of said biometric scanner and further having an output data port;  
a data transmitter having an input port coupled to the output port of  
said processor device.

10 2. The biometric security device of claim 1 wherein said biometric  
scanner is a finger print scanner.

3. The biometric security device of claim 1 further including a memory  
coupled to said processor and having stored therein at least one of: an identifier for  
15 said biometric security device and data representing a biometric characteristic of at  
least one individual.

4. The biometric security device of claim 1 wherein said biometric data  
transmitter is a Bluetooth protocol-compliant transmitter.

20 5. The biometric security device of claim 3 wherein said biometric data  
transmitter is a Bluetooth protocol-compliant transmitter.

25 6. The biometric security device of claim 1 wherein said processor is a  
personal digital assistant.

7. The biometric security device of claim 1 wherein said biometric data  
transmitter is an infrared transmitter.

30 8. A security device comprised of:  
a biometric scanner, that is capable of obtaining a first biometric  
characteristic;

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a memory having stored therein a second biometric characteristic;  
a processor coupled to said biometric scanner and said memory; and  
a data transmitter coupled to said processor which transmits a signal  
indicating that a person has been substantially identified from said first and second  
5 biometric characteristics.

9. A security device comprised of:  
a biometric scanner, that is capable of obtaining a first biometric  
characteristic;  
10 a memory having stored therein a second biometric characteristic and  
an identifier for the security device;  
a processor coupled to said biometric scanner and said memory; and  
a data transmitter coupled to said processor which transmits at least  
one of said identifier and a signal indicating that a person has been identified from  
15 said first and second biometric characteristics.

10. A biometric security device comprised of:  
a personal digital assistant device having a processor coupled to an  
image scanner to obtain a first biometric characteristic and further having a memory  
20 coupled to said processor that stores a second biometric characteristic therein;  
a data transmitter having an input port coupled to the second output  
data port.

11. The biometric security device of claim 10 further including a memory  
25 coupled to said processor which stores an authenticator for said personal digital  
assistant.

12. The biometric security device of claim 10 wherein said image scanner  
is a capacitive finger scanner.  
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13. The biometric security device of claim 10 wherein said data transmitter  
is a Bluetooth protocol-compliant transmitter.

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14. A biometric security device comprised of:  
a capacitive finger-print scanner having an output data port;  
a processor coupled to said capacitive finger print scanner to obtain a  
5 first biometric characteristic;  
a memory coupled to said processor;  
a data transmitter coupled to and responsive to said processor.

15. The biometric security device of claim 14 wherein said capacitive  
10 finger-print scanner is a finger print scanner that generates a numerical representation  
of a finger-print of an individual.

16. The biometric security device of claim 14 wherein said transmitter is at  
least one of: an infrared transmitter and a radio frequency transmitter.

17. A biometric security device comprised of:  
a retinal image scanner that obtains a first biometric characteristic;  
a memory storing an identifier for said biometric security device;  
a personal digital assistant having a processor coupled to said retinal  
20 image scanner and to said memory;  
a radio frequency data transmitter coupled to said processor.

18. A biometric security device comprised of:  
a retinal image scanner having a first data output port;  
25 a processor having a data input port coupled to said first data output  
port and further having a second data output port;  
a biometric data transmitter having an input port coupled to said  
second data output port.

19. A method of controlling access to an area using biometric  
30 characteristics of individuals comprised of:  
scanning a biometric characteristic of an individual;

generating a numeric representation of said biometric characteristic;  
modulating said numeric representation onto a radio frequency (RF) signal;  
transmitting said RF signal to a radio receiver for analysis.

5           20. A method of controlling access to an area using biometric characteristics of individuals comprised of:

obtaining a first biometric characteristic of an individual;

generating a first numeric representation of said first biometric characteristic;

10           comparing said first numeric representation to a second numeric representation of a biometric characteristic of an individual authorized to have access to said area;

upon the determination that said first numeric representation is at least substantially the same as said second numeric representation, modulating said first numeric representation onto a radio frequency (RF) signal;

15           transmitting said RF signal to a radio receiver for analysis.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein said step of obtaining a first biometric characteristic is comprised of the step of optically scanning a first biometric characteristic.

20           22. A method of controlling access to an area using biometric characteristics of individuals comprised of:

obtaining a first biometric characteristic of an individual;

generating a first numeric representation of said first biometric characteristic;

25           modulating said first numeric representation onto a radio frequency (RF) signal;

transmitting said RF signal to a radio receiver for demodulation;

30           after demodulating said RF signal, comparing said first numeric representation to a second numeric representation of a biometric characteristic of an individual authorized to have access to said area;

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upon the determination that said first numeric representation is at least substantially the same as said second numeric representation, enabling access to said area.

5           23.    The method of claim 22 wherein said step of obtaining a first biometric characteristic is comprised of the step of optically scanning a first biometric characteristic.

10           24.    A biometric security device comprised of:  
              a capacitive finger print image scanner obtaining a first biometric characteristic;  
              a personal digital assistant device having a processor coupled to said capacitive finger print image scanner;  
              a memory coupled to said processor and storing at least one of a  
15           second biometric characteristic and an identifier for said biometric security device;  
              a Bluetooth communication protocol-compliant data transmitter coupled to said processor and capable of transmitting at least one of said identifier, said first biometric characteristic, and a signal representing the results of comparing said first biometric characteristic to said second biometric characteristic.

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